

Heat Kills Campaign Launched



ON THE MORNING OF JUNE 3, 2004, MAYOR OSCAR B. GOODMAN, COUNCILMAN GARY REESE, CITY MANAGER DOUG SELBY and FIRE CHIEF DAVID WASHINGTON kicked-off LAS VEGAS FIRE & RESCUE'S public education and awareness campaign called "HEAT KILLS." This campaign brings into focus the dangers of leaving children unattended in parked vehicles.

A great deal of thought went into this campaign in terms of how to get the message out to the public. What is being used is a sticker affixed to the doors of businesses to remind adults not to leave children in the cars and instructing that if someone sees children left unattended in a vehicle, they should call 9-1-1 immediately. Most child lockouts are accidental in nature, but from time to time we encounter those that are not. We hope this campaign will deter people from leaving children in vehicles unattended.

COUNCILMAN GARY REESE stated: "No one would leave a million dollar item unattended in a vehicle. Why would you leave your most valuable children unattended for even a minute?" Our goal is to get the word out as much as we can and prevent any of these deaths from happening this summer. We have 25,000 stickers

on hand, both in English & Spanish. Also, this

sticker will be seen on certain LVFR units in addition to 50 CAT buses.

Thanks to EMS COORDINATOR SCOTT JOHNSON, who spearheaded the project, and to ROY LAWSON and CLV GRAPHIC ARTS for the final finished product. Now we need everyone's help. Please get the word out before it gets too hot and maybe we can prevent a needless death of a small child this summer.

FIRE CHIEF DAVID WASHINGTON has just informed us that the membership of Metro Chiefs has selected LAS VEGAS FIRE & RESCUE to host the 2006 INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS (IAFC) /METRO CHIEFS CONFERENCE, most likely at the GOLDEN NUGGET HOTEL. In years past, whenever LVFR hosted the western state's Chiefs Conference, it was the IAFC's best-attended conference.

A special thanks to BRIAN WILLETT of the LVFR VIDEO SERVICES DIVISION for putting together a classy video that obviously won the votes of the members and to MAYOR OSCAR B. GOODMAN for helping us invite the Chiefs.

We look forward to hosting the Metro Chiefs of IAFC.



THIS IS A NEW DAY

with respect to our nationally acclaimed newsletter. Hopefully, each of you recalls that our hardcopy newsletter achieved great recognition a few years back, winning the IABC Bronze Quill Award in 1998.

Our newsletter, Las Vegas Firenews, was established in 1992 as another means of informing members of our staff and the fire community of some of our many accomplishments, as well as just to simply communicate and share information with you.

After many years of tremendous success under the tireless work of MAUREEN PEZZULLO, we were able to sustain the newsletter's achievements through the assistance of many of you who contributed by writing articles. To each of those contributing, especially PIO TIM SZYMANSKI, I say thank you. Also, I extend special thanks to TIM, LOUIS BAKER and our other photographers who contribute photos for each issue.

In this day of tight budgets, it's only due to funding constraints that we will no longer produce a hardcopy newsletter and have changed to this electronic format. Yet, I trust that the quality of the articles that you will continue to submit to Maureen will keep us on the forefront of communicating with our members, as we continue to serve during some exciting times.

So as we are striving for a safer community, let's continue to take pride in the written works that are yet to be submitted in this new electronic format. Once again thanks to our past, present and future writers for this publication.

David Washington, Fire Chief

Randy Farr Day Proclaimed



paramedic was presented the city's highest honor, the "Medal of Honor" from the LAS VEGAS CITY COUN-CIL on Wednesday, June 2, 2004. He was recognized because of an incident he was lying upside-down. involved with last March. The city's Medal of Honor is ing the vehicle, they heard presented on rare occasion a loud bang. They looked to those individuals who performed extraordinary heroism. He was nominated by CITY COUNCILWOMAN JANET MONCRIEF, who also presented him with the award.

veteran of the fire service, has been employed with Las Vegas Fire & Rescue for the past two years. He came to LVFR after working with and California.

4:39 p.m., Engine 210 responded to an overturned 2nd, as "Randy Farr Day."

ALAS VEGAS firefighter/ SUV on Paratore Way (W. Charleston/Valley Farr was a member of the four-person crew on Engine 210 and when they arrived on scene, they found a man inside the car, which was as paramedics were enteraround and could not find the source, so they decided to enter the vehicle. Farr was the first one in and when he crawled in, he found the victim with a handgun in his hand. He figured out what RANDY FARR, a 14-year the bang sound was; the man had just fired the gun. Farr wrestled the gun out of the man's hand and threw it outside the vehicle.

No one was shot during fire departments in Arizona the incident. The man was transported to the hospital On March 2, 2004, at for head injuries. The CITY COUNCIL proclaimed June

CITY COUNCIL: Mayor Oscar B. Goodman • Mayor Pro-Tem Gary Reese Councilman Larry Brown, Ward 4 • Councilman Lawrence Weekly, Ward 5 Councilman Michael Mack, Ward 6 • Councilwoman Janet Moncrief, Ward 1 City Manager: Douglas Selby

LAS VEGAS FIRE & RESCUE: Fire Chief: David L. Washington Deputy Fire Chiefs: Ken Riddle • Jeffrey Morgan • Richard Gracia • Greg Gammon

Command Center Unveiled

LAS VEGAS FIRE & RES-

CUE exhibited its new mobile EMERGENCY COMMAND CENTER during a media event on Thursday, June 3, 2004. The new unit provides the department with a mobile miniheadquarters in the event of a large-scale disaster as well as at large emergencies.

Two companies built unit: the Pierce Manufacturing built the chassis (outside) of the unit and LDV Specialty Vehicles built the interior of the unit. The unit, along with equipment used cost nearly a million dollars.

The interior of the unit is

divided into three areas: public information, communications and command control. The public information area is small office that can gather and disseminate

information at an incident. It has a number of communications devices, video equipment, weather instruments and numerous TV & radios. The communications area has room for three dispatchers to communicate with numerous agencies and personnel. It

also has a special radio unit built in which can patch communications between multiple agencies working at the same incident but using different radio systems. It also has various phone systems including hardwire, cellular and satellite. The command & control area consist of a small con-

ference room in
which commanders
can plan
a n d
discuss
incident

details.

The unit also has a small galley (kitchen area) and rest room so personnel can stay at an incident for an extended amount of time. The unit has two large capacity diesel gen-

SOME OF THE SPECIFICATIONS OF THE UNIT INCLUDE:

Overall length of the unit: 39 feet

/AM-FM-Satellite Radio Receive

Overall width of the unit: 8 feet
Overall height of the unit: 12 feet, 9 inches
Wheelbase of chassis: 260.5 inches
Complete Heating / Air Conditioning System (3 units)
120/240 volt system / 2 Commercial quiet 12.0kW
built on board generators
Complete VHF/UHF/800MHz radio systems /
Hardwire-Cell-Satellite phone system

Direct Satellite TV / Cable & Normal VHF/UHF TV Receive

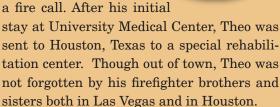
erators built on board which can produce all the electricity it needs as will as for a number of portable lights the unit has.

The unit will respond to larger incidents and special events and can stay in operation for an extended amount of time.

Theo's Coming Home!

SINCE THE EVENING of October 31, 2003, the thoughts and prayers of the Las Vegas Fire & Rescue family have been for the recovery of Theo

Adams. On that evening Captain
Theo Adams sustained serious injuries when Engine 6 was involved in an accident at the Jones/95 exit while responding to



We have just heard that plans are now underway for Theo to return home to Las Vegas in June. His ultimate goal will be to return to his house that is being renovated with special accommodations. This process will be facilitated and streamlined by many people from the city of Las Vegas, worker's compensation and TIRR to name a few.

Until this remodel is complete, Theo will live at a new rehabilitation center called Care Meridian, 7690 Carmen Boulevard, off Buffalo and Washington. This facility is highly recommended and will be in close proximity to his son Ty, his home and fire stations. Arrangements are being made to set up a visiting schedule.

To welcome Theo back, a Captain Theo Adams Benefit Car Wash is planned for June 26th, at TERRIBLE HERBST, LAKE MEAD & TENAYA. Theo's favorite live DJ "Dre" will be in attendance and more information on this event will be coming soon.

Also planned is a benefit event that will take place in the second or third week in August. This will be a social affair that will include a short program, refreshments, music and much more. Prizes from a raffle will

continued on next page

From The Budget Guy: Fire Department Budgets Approved for FY2005



ON MAY 18, 2004, the City Council approved our General Fund budget in the amount of \$85,473,013 for fiscal year 2005. The new budget reflects an overall increase of approximately 12% over our current General Fund budget of \$76,551,092. The City of Las Vegas approved a total of 59 positions citywide for which seven (7) were approved for the fire

department. These include four (4) Fire Investigators (January '05 hire date), one (1) Fire Training Officer, one (1) EMS Nurse Coordinator, and one (1) Office Specialist II.

Much of the increases were due to contractual obligations and the addition of the new positions along with related equipment. Our overtime/callback line items were increased by over \$4 million between the Operations and Fire Prevention budgets. This means (hopefully) that all the operational money in supplies, services, and capital outlay will remain there for functional purchases and won't be transferred again to cover the overtime expenses.

For FY2005, \$500,000 was approved for increased spending in our General Fund base budget for supplies, services, and capital outlay. Unfortunately, that amount has already been obligated to the MCT and EMS Pen Based capital recovery charges (five year replacement plans), the maintenance for the EMS Pen Based System, the 25% match for the C.O.P.S. radio grant, and the Southern Nevada Area Communications Council buy in for the new C.O.P.S. radios. Just like that, it is exhausted.

In the Capital Improvement Projects, we received \$300,000 for design costs for the proposed driver's training track to be located at the proposed northwest Regional Fire Complex. The other new CIP funding is for the Interface Servers replacements for the Communications Center. In addition, other "carryover" projects include the Paramedic Pen Based System, Fire Station #5 replacement, Fire Station #8 replacement, Training Center Perimeter Fence, AVL System replacement, and

the Fire Station #6 improvements. The "carryover" projects for the Communications Center include the Radio Channel Recording System replacement, 9-1-1 Telephone System replacement, 9-1-1 Call Taker Consoles, CAD System Modifications, and the First In Alerting System. The total CIP budget for FY2005 is \$6,449,729.

The Communications Center budget was increased from \$6,869,098 in FY2004 to \$7,227,287 for FY2005. The apparatus budget was increase from \$600,000 in FY2004 to \$1 million for FY2005 for new/replacement vehicles.

I would like to take this opportunity to truly thank everyone for their excellent fiscal management this year. By June 21st, we will have a new spending plan in place for each function and fire station and starting July 1st, we will begin purchasing your supplies and equipment. If anyone has any questions on the current or new budgets, please contact me anytime at ext. 0305.



continued from previous page "Theo's Coming Home"

also be awarded. Raffle tickets are being coordinated by FTO EIDA FUJII and will be available very soon. Thousands of dollars in prizes will be raffled at the August benefit fundraiser. Donations may also be made to Theo through tax-exempt organizations listed below. Make checks payable to:

- Firefighters of Southern Nevada Burn Foundation
- Las Vegas Firefighter's Benefit Association (LVBFA)
- Las Vegas Firefighter's Local 1285 (LVFF),
- United Firefighters of Southern Nevada (UFFSN)

Please contact BERTRAL WASHINGTON by email (Bwashington@LasVegasNevada.GOV) or at 303-5705 for more information.

Theo, his mom, son, family and friends give thanks for the continued support and prayers for to Theo. Special thanks go out to those who recently visited Theo in Houston. The trip, planned by Captain Brian Gray, Chief Don Parker, our Executive Staff and Houston Firefighters was outstanding. Theo's mother was deeply touched by the visitors, the baseball outing, and the special recognition by the City of Houston.

Cifizen's Fire Academy Students Graduate

SINCE FEBRUARY, forty local residents of Las Vegas including a clergyman, city workers, a law enforcement officer, a doctor, a public relations specialist, two nurses, several students and retired citizens have attended a



3-hour class once a week to learn about fire/rescue and other emergency services in the Las Vegas Valley. They are participants of the LAS VEGAS FIRE & RESCUE CITIZENS FIRE ACADEMY, now completing its fifth year. Over the past 5-years, 200 people have completed

the CFA, and some have gone on to assist local agencies such as the Trauma Intervention Program and American Red Cross, programs they were not aware of before the CFA.

The academy consists of classroom instruction, field trips, a three-hour ride along with a fire crew and a field day, held at the department's fire training center at Mojave & Bonanza this past Saturday. There they wore firefighter gear, participated in a simulated auto accident rescue and observed a demonstration by the department's Hazardous Materials Team.

On the evening of May 4th, they received their certificate of accomplishment and a mini-badge pin in a graduation ceremony held at the East Las Vegas Community Center. Friends and relatives attended a dinner provided by the students. The ceremony included the National Anthem sung by PATRICIA WELCH, a local performer who has performed on Broadway. She sang a 9-11 tribute that her husband composed, "United We'll Stand." She also sang the song during the 9-11 Memorial Service in Washington D.C. in 2002.

PIO TIM SZYMANSKI, who started the program in 2000, coordinates the Citizens Fire Academy. The CFA has been adopted by several other fire departments across the country. In fact they use the exact same

schedule LVFR uses, many meeting on the same nights. JO O'ROURKE has been the academy's assistant director for the past four years.

The program received a Commendation from the International Association of Fire Chief's Fire Service Awards in Excellence program in 2001, and the Community Service Award from Firehouse Magazine.

The Citizens Fire Academy is held once each year from February to May, meeting once a week, either on Tuesday or Thursday evenings from 6:30 p.m. -

9:30 p.m. The program is free and open to anyone who is interested in how the fire service operates in the Las Vegas Valley. Participants learn about fire safety, tour the Fire Communications Center (Fire/EMS 911) and participate in a ride along with an actual fire crew. Applica-



tions are accepted only during November and December of each year and participants are notified in January of classes beginning in February.

The community benefits from the CFA also. A number of CFA graduates have since completed the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training program, some have become members of the American Red Cross's Disaster Assistance Team, a few have joined the Trauma Intervention Program (TIP) and at least eight graduates have gone on to become firefighters.

New Communications Specialists in Training



NEW COMMUNICATIONS SPE-CIALISTS are hired from varied fields of telecommunications like PBX operators, hotel security dispatch, public utility dispatch, and ex-military personnel with radio and telecommunications backgrounds such as air traffic control and shipboard communications.

When new communications specialists report for duty, they are introduced to

the people they will be working with/for and are issued headsets and two rather large binders containing the training manual and the Fire Communication's SOP's.

For about one month, these folks go through a rather intense period of information overload, requiring them to memorize the locations of more than 50 fire stations and all of the units housed in each. They are required to memorize the names of the personnel from each department and are taken on orientation tours of all three headquarters stations (LVFR, NLVFD and CCFD). Other orientation trips include all of the major communications centers we work directly with, and outlying area county volunteer areas (stations) such as Moapa Valley, Lake Mead, Mt. Charleston, Stateline, and more.

After this indoctrination and familiarization period, communications specialists in training attend the three-day National Academy Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) Certification Course and are provided CPR Certification training. This is all accomplished (generally) before a person starts to take real 9-1-1 calls or begins dispatching units.

When communications specialist trainees begin taking actual calls and dispatching units, they are assigned a preceptor who trains them on how to apply the training they have received from the EMD and CPR courses and they begin using the mountain of information they have memorized in classroom sessions.

The entire process typically lasts about six months, but can be as short as four months for someone who catches on very quickly; or the process can take more than one year (this is rarely the case though).

After satisfying the preceptor on their ability to handle most calltaking and dispatch situations, the communications specialist is signed off and the formal training process is complete. As the environment we work in is always in a state of change, there is always recurring training that must be attended to in order to keep up with the changes of three fire departments. Our FIRE COMMUNICATIONS TRAINING SPECIALIST STEVE HERRIN coordinates this training.

The following new communications specialist trainees are currently in training: CHRIS SPROULE joined the communications team in April; New Hires- Hire Date 5/03/04: REINA R. LUNA, LINDA S. HUFF, JUAN P. VILLAGRAN . Hire Date 5/17/04: MICHAEL M. SVOBODA

PRIORITY SAFETY

- SANDY KIRKWOOD WAS named the department's new FIRE HEALTH & SAFETY OFFICER. She will be working with personnel in all divisions to ensure that all safety procedures are followed and that everyone works in the safest environment possible.
- VICKI ROBINSON, CLV INSURANCE SERVICES MANAGER, noted that there is an increase in station accidents in the kitchens, around barbecues, getting in and out of fire units, and back injury accidents. Just a reminder, be careful!
- FROM the Fire Oversight Committee, some safety thoughts:
 - a. Are you using your fanny pack during a call? If not, please do so.
 - b. Buckle Up for Safety. Wear your seatbelts, ALWAYS.
 - c. Your fire station will be inspected each month. Please have your fire station inspection form completed.
- The instructions on how to complete the forms for an on-the-job accident/injury have been placed on the computer. Go to "LVFR Forms" on your desktop, click on the folder entitled "Fire Health & Safety," then click on "Workers' Compensation."
- Did you know that the department's Labor/Management SAFETY COM-MITTEE has a new sub-committee called the R& D (RESEARCH & DE-VELOPMENT) COMMITTEE? Under the direction of MIKE SPURLING, the committee consists of: DAN ALLRED (Chair) PAUL SHAPIRO, JON STEVENSON, CHRIS RIEF-FER, JEFF DECKER (Secretary) and SANDY KIRKWOOD. The committee will meet once a month to test and evaluate new items presented to them for consideration.

New Statton & Update

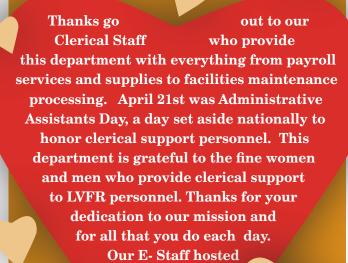


IN OCTOBER OF 2003, we held a groundbreaking ceremony for the new Fire Station #5. Over the course of the last seven months, the building construction has reached about 75%. As you know, this is a replacement station for the original Fire Station #5.

There are a number of unique features utilized in the project. We have a Station #5 Memorabilia Wall, a piece of steel from the World Trade Center, a Model-T garage and a new facade.

We are fast approaching the September 2004 completion date of the project. Although the Grand Opening is not yet scheduled, we expect another successful transition to this distinctive fire station.

Clerical Staff Honored



an appreciation luncheon at Main Street Station.

"Big Willie" Willis Does Time for MDA



ON MAY 11, 2004, Senior Office Specialist Linda Willis had the honor and (believe it or not) pleasure of serving time behind bars for "Jerry's Kids" to benefit the Muscular

Dystrophy Association. Linda raised over \$1,220 in "bail money" to help MDA continue the fight against Muscular Dystrophy.

The Southern Nevada Chapter serves people with neuromuscular disease by provid-



ing a clinic at UMC Enterprise Quick Care, assistance with the purchase and repair of wheelchairs, braces and

communication devices (\$2,000), a special camp for "Jerry Kids" each summer for a week (\$525), one support group session (\$100), follow-up clinic visit (\$75), one minute research (\$57) and one annual flu shot (\$25). MDA also funds research grants to help find treatments and cures for 43 neuromuscular diseases that affect people of all ages.

On behalf of the families which MDA serves, thanks to all who contributed.

Children's Fire Safety Program Presented

ON SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 2004.

the Southern Nevada Fire Prevention Association in conjunction with your local fire departments sponsored this year's The Children's Television Workshop's Sesame Street Fire Safety Program. This event took place at the UNLV Thomas and Mack Center.

This fire safety workshop is offered to Southern Nevada early childhood development teachers, preschool teachers and childcare providers. This year 175 participants attended the training. The focus on this workshop is to provide these educators with the

tools and skills needed to teach fire were introduced to the NFPA Risk safety behaviors to the very young.

This year's theme is "We Can Do More By Teaching Fire Safety In into the Clark County School Dis-2004" and focused on:

- Smoke detectors.
- Firefighters' responsibilities.
- How to plan and practice fire drills.
- Evacuation plans.

Started in 1983, this is the longest running Sesame Street Fire Safety Program in the United States. During the first year, workshop participants

Watch Injury Prevention Program, which the association has introduced trict.

Special thanks to LAS VEGAS FIRE & RESCUE DEPUTY FIRE MARSHAL JEFF DONAHUE, President of the SOUTHERN NEVADA FIRE PREVENTION ASSOCIATION and CLARK COUNTY FIRE DE-PARTMENT DEPUTY FIRE MAR-SHAL KAY EGGERS, the program manager.



alk.E.S. Recruitiment Complete

DURING THE WEEK of May 2nd, the F.I.R.E.S. recruitment process was completed. This process was lengthy and sometimes intense, but thanks to the hard work of ASSISTANT CHIEF EUGENE CAMPBELL, BATTALION CHIEF BOB PITTS and MRS. PATTI MILLER of Human Resources, the interview portion of the process went smoothly.

Hats off to Chief Robert Pitts and Mrs. Miller on the way the interview panel was run. Many interviewees complemented our process, saying that they had been through it before, but this time was exceptional.

Over 200 applicants were interviewed and they were just great. They knew a lot about Las Vegas Fire & Rescue and many have visited the stations or have gone online in their quest for information. They were well prepared.

Several interviewees stated: "The firefighters are great here, I have been to many cities and the crews here were friendlier and took time with me."

Others said that the website was helpful. Many websites are out of date or don't have much information. These comments reflected the outstanding teamwork, passion for our profession and systems application at work. Thanks to the many people in other divisions and sections that made the process work. Working together we can do anything.

International Association of Fire Chiefs/EMS Section Holds Annual Conference

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS, along with medical professionals and emergency responders, met in Las Vegas for the seventh year in a row at the Orleans Hotel for the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Section Fire-Rescue Med 2004. The conference, which concluded on Wednesday April 28th, began with preconference classes over the weekend and an opening ceremony on Monday morning, April 26th.

Firefighters, paramedics and first responders from across the country attended classes on how to handle various medical emergencies, leadership, media relations, quality control and other fire/rescue/EMS issues. More than 600 people attended this conference. There are also several medical and first response equipment exhibits set up in the hotel conference

The annual event, first started seven years ago, was organized by Las Vegas Deputy Fire Chief / Fire Marshal Ken Riddle. The Fire-Rescue Med conference is one of the IAFC's more popular conferences. More than 39 speakers, most experts in their fields, spoke at the conference, including Deputy Chief Ken Riddle, Assistant Chief Mike Myers, James O. Page and LVFR PIO Tim Szymanski.

Page 8 LAS VEGAS FIRENEWS

We Celebrate Take Our Children To Work Day

ON THURSDAY, April 22, 2004, the department participated in the city's annual TAKE OUR CHILDREN TO WORK program. Coordinated by NIKKI HENLEY and emceed by KATHI COOPER, this event provided career development and fire safety information to about 40 departmental sons and daughters.

CHIEF WASHINGTON and the E-STAFF welcomed the group into the EOC for a brief presentation on "Who Does What?" Special subject presenters included RICK DIEBOLD, TIM SZYMANSKI, CHIEF DAN ALLRED,

FIRE TRAINING OFFICERS ANYIKA KAMAL and MARK RIVERA.

Participants visited the Training Center and returned to a lunch prepared by "Chief Chef" RICK GRACIA. Special thanks to SHARON MENNO, LIZ PASECHNICK, LINDA WILLIS, STATION #1-A CREWS and to everyone who worked so hard to make this event such a success.

Local Media Personnel Complete Wildland Fire Safety Course

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING media personnel who completed a two-hour Wildland Fire Safety Course for the Media on Saturday, May 15, 2004, at Las Vegas Fire & Rescue Headquarters:

Gary Waddell - KLAS-TV 8 News Atle Erlingsson - KLAS-TV 8 News Victor Woodall - KLAS-TV 8 News Dayna Roselli- KLAS-TV 8 News John Turner- KLAS-TV 8 News Traci Arnold- KLAS-TV 8 News Brian Podner- KLAS-TV 8 News Nathan R. Sylves- KLAS-TV 8 News Kyle Zuelke- KLAS-TV 8 News

Brandon Eisenberg- KLAS-TV 8 News
Kris Duke- KLAS-TV 8 News
Oscar Palomo- KLAS-TV 8 News
Bridget Waldman- KLAS-TV 8 News
Mark Mutchler- KLAS-TV 8 News
Adam White- KLAS-TV 8 News
Cory Royer- KLAS-TV 8 News
Matthew Minard - Photographer
Las Vegas Sun

The course covered fire science and wildland fires, the different terms used during wildland fires, incident command system, firefighting tactics used at wildland fires, tools and equipment used at wildland fires, and how the media can stay safe while working in areas of wildland fires.

Each participant was given a certificate of completion at the end of the course. The course was designed and delivered by FIRE-PIO TIM SZYMANSKI of Las Vegas Fire & Rescue.



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